

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) An article for delivering a drug and a nucleic acid, the article comprising:
 - a nanoparticle forming a micelle, wherein the nanoparticle comprises a polymer having a polyester backbone comprising N-methyldietheneamine sebacate and/or [(cholesteryl oxocarbonylamido ethyl) methyl bis (ethylene) ammonium bromide] sebacate;
 - a nucleic acid associated with an exterior of the micelle; and
 - a drug associated with an interior of the micelle.
2. (Canceled)
3. (Currently Amended) The article of claim 1, wherein the nanoparticle is capable of passing through a cell membrane.
4. (Currently Amended) The article of claim 1, wherein the nucleic acid is DNA.
5. (Currently Amended) The article of claim 1, wherein the drug is a cancer drug.
- 6-7. (Canceled)
8. (Currently Amended) The article of claim 1, wherein the nanoparticle is stable at a concentration of greater than 5 mg/L.
9. (Currently Amended) The article of claim 1, wherein the nanoparticle is capable of crossing the blood/brain barrier.
10. (Previously Presented) A composition comprising the article of claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

11. (Currently Amended) The article of claim 1, wherein the polyester backbone comprises tertiary amines.

12. (Canceled)

13. (Currently Amended) The article of claim 11, wherein the polyester backbone comprises a copolymer of quaternized and non-quaternized tertiary ammonium groups.

14. (Currently Amended) The article of claim 1, wherein the polyester backbone further comprises an ether linkage.

15. (Currently Amended) The article of claim 11, wherein at least a portion of the tertiary amines are quaternized and bound to a hydrophobic side chain.

16. (Currently Amended) The article of claim 1, wherein the polyester backbone further comprises a polyether.

17-43. (Canceled)

44. (Currently Amended) A kit comprising:

a container including an amphoteric polymeric nanoparticle forming a micelle, wherein the polymeric nanoparticle comprises a polymer having a polyester backbone comprising N-methyldietheneamine sebacate and/or [(cholesteryl oxocarbonylamido ethyl) methyl bis (ethylene) ammonium bromide] sebacate;

a nucleic acid associated with an exterior of the micelle;

a drug associated with an interior of the micelle; and

instructions for administering the nanoparticle to a subject.

45-48. (Canceled)

49. (Currently Amended) The kit of claim 44, wherein the polyester backbone comprises a graft co-polymer.
50. (Currently Amended) The article of claim 1, wherein the polyester backbone comprises an amphiphilic co-polymer.
51. (Previously Presented) The article of claim 50, wherein the amphiphilic co-polymer is a cationic amphiphilic co-polymer.
52. (Currently Amended) The article of claim 1, wherein the drug is not covalently or ionically bound to the nanoparticle.
53. (Currently Amended) The article of claim 1, wherein the drug is physically contained by the nanoparticle.
54. (Currently Amended) The article of claim 1, wherein the polyester backbone comprises a graft co-polymer.
55. (New) The article of claim 15 wherein the hydrophobic side chain comprises cholesterol.